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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH

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Analysis of Enrolled House Bill 5282

Topic: Career and Technical Preparation

Sponsor: Representative Wenke

Co-sponsors: Representatives Byrnes, Vander Veen, Lipsey, and Booher

Committee: House Higher Education and Career Preparation

House Education

Date Introduced: October 11, 2005
Date Enrolled: March 23, 2006
Date of Analysis: March 28, 2006

Position: The Department of Labor & Economic Growth supports the bill.

Problem/Background: Michigan's Career and Technical Preparation Act sunsets in June. When it was enacted in 2000 the act was intended to expand dual enrollment options to include career and technical preparation programs. The act works with Section 21b of the School Aid Act, which allows the foundation grant to be used to pay for tuition and fees for a student attending academic or career related programs at a postsecondary institution.

Description of Bill: The bill eliminates the sunset on the Michigan Career and Technical Preparation Act.

Arguments For: A sunset of this excellent program would send the wrong message to career and technical education students, teachers, and counselors. It is important for Michigan to continue to strengthen its Career and Technical Education (CTE) resources and a sunset would have the opposite effect.

The act is a cornerstone of the state's efforts to provide Michigan employers with a source of educated young people to fill the highly skilled positions that are fundamental to restructuring of the Michigan economy.

Extending dual enrollment for students in career tracks supports the recommendations from the Governor's Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth to increase the number of college graduates in Michigan.

Arguments Against: There was reluctance in 2005 to proceed with legislation to extend or eliminate the sunset until a work group was formed to consider substantive changes in the act. Ultimately, this work group was never formed and these discussions never occurred.

Fiscal/Economic Impact:

Budgetary: The bill will have no budgetary impact on the department or state..

Revenue: The bill will have no impact on revenue to the department or state.

Local Government Impact: The bill will affect school districts and community colleges by continuing to allow dual enrollment in a career and technical preparation program at a postsecondary educational institution.

Other Pertinent Information: The bill passed unanimously in both houses.

Administrative Rules Impact: Although the department has the authority under the act to promulgate administrative rules, it has not done so.